

R E M A R K S

Claims 1, 2, 4, 6, 7 and 10-14 currently remain in the application. Claims 3, 5, 8 and 9 have been withdrawn as non-elected claims. Claim 1 was earlier amended. None of these claims is herein being amended.

Claims 1, 2, 4, 6, 7 and 10-14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 over Matsui in view of Tate. To start, the Examiner is requested to note that the present invention is in the technical field of surface-mountable electronic components and relates to a method of surface-mounting a plurality of electronic components (page 1, lines 5-7), not just one such component, and more particularly, a plurality of electronic components of different sizes and shapes. As admitted at least in part by the Examiner, Matsui failed to provide support for the limitation regarding a plurality of terminal-forming areas, much less a plurality of terminal-forming areas of the specific kind characterized in claims 1 and 10 such as each being no greater than corresponding one of the electronic components and including one with terminal parts arranged so as to satisfy a specified condition. Indeed, Matsui's disclosure is very narrowly limited to examples wherein one circuit board (referred to as a second circuit board or a chip) is mounted to another single circuit board (referred to as the first circuit board or the base).


Tate was cited by the Examiner evidently only for disclosing a plurality of areas specifically intended to have electronic components mounted thereon but the method of mounting electronic components by Tate is totally different from that of Matsui or from the method of the present invention. As mentioned by the Examiner in Paragraph 4 of the Official Letter, Tate uses adhesive masses 36 for the purpose of mounting, no use of an anisotropic conductive layer being mentioned or even hinted at. Fig. 2 of Tate shows these adhesive masses 36 (which are not an anisotropic conductor) scattered over different ones of what may be referred to as terminal-forming areas but they are not spanning these areas. A single layer spanning over a plurality of areas and individually separated masses dispersed over these areas are two different concepts and describe two different situations. Besides, the widely spread individually separated adhesive masses 36 of Tate cannot possibly be referred to as forming a layer.

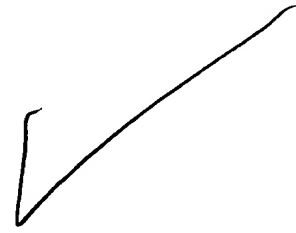
In summary, neither of Matsui nor Tate is disclosing the use of an anisotropic

conductive layer so as to span a plurality of specified areas and to have a plurality of electronic components pressed thereonto. It is well settled that one cannot randomly pick and choose isolated inventive elements from different references to reject a claim on the ground of obviousness especially where there is no apparent reason or motivation to combine such inventive elements from different references.

It is therefore believed that the Examiner's rejection should be reversed and that the application has been in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,


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